

State of Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality



Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Governor

Mike McDaniel, Secretary

For Immediate Release

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ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

MEDIA ADVISORY

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality WHO:

WHAT: Free Brownfields Seminar

WHEN: Mar. 9-11, 8 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

WHERE: **Bossier**

> Wednesday, Mar. 9 Isle of Capri Resort 711 Isle of Capri Blvd.

Alexandria

Thursday, Mar.10

Best Western Suites & Conference Center

2720 W. MacArthur Drive

Lake Charles Friday, Mar. 11

Harrah's Lake Charles Casino & Hotel

507 N. Lakeshore Drive

WHY:

All across the state, sites for potential redevelopment lie idle. What could possibly become business, residential communities, recreational facilities and playgrounds are overlooked because of hurdles associated with cleanup. These hurdles exist because the industrial or commercial properties that are abandoned, idled or underused are often perceived as being contaminated. Properties conforming to these characteristics are called brownfields. The brownfields program seeks to bring these types of properties back into productive reuse to spark economic development, create jobs and increase tax revenues to benefit entire communities.

These free seminars will discuss the importance of the Louisiana brownfields program. Topics include brownfields basics, grant writing, other programs that encourage cleanup, state funding initiatives and marketing brownfields.

The event is sponsored by DEQ, EPA and the Center for Brownfield Initiatives at the University of New Orleans.